



OCA 88-1435
13 May 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director
The Deputy Director

FROM: John L. Helgerson
Director of Congressional Affairs

SUBJECT: Weekly Report

Intelligence Oversight Legislation: On a straight party line vote of 11-6, the HPSCI approved on 11 May a revised version of H.R. 3822, the Intelligence Oversight Act of 1988. It will now go to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which plans to hold hearings on the bill.

The revised version has a definition of covert action that is a distinct improvement over the definition of covert action in the Senate bill. However, the bill continues to be objectionable to the Administration because of the requirement to notify Congress of a covert action within 48 hours without exception. A Republican effort to allow the President to delay notification beyond 48 hours was defeated on a straight party line vote. Another Republican proposal, which would criminalize the knowing and willful disclosure of classified information received pursuant to the Oversight Act, failed on a tie vote. Some Democrats supported the proposal (Wilson and Mavroules) and other Democrats stated that they agreed in principle with the proposal but needed more time to study it. It is likely the amendment will be offered again when the bill reaches the floor of the House.

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John L. Helgerson

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